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Subject: Update - 16 Feb 2019 - Lindsey Lake Tanker Spill (I-84, MP 54; OERS 2019-0334)

Hello all:

An update (Bcc:) on the Lindsey Lake tanker spill (I-84, MP 54):

- **Today's operations:**

- Today, we implemented our plan to begin flushing diesel-contaminated snow and ice from the road embankment and recovering it at our containment point on the shoreline of Lindsey Lake. We did not recover nearly as much of the spilled fuel or oily water as we had hoped because the snow is heavily compacted and its near-solid consistency makes it difficult to melt. However, good weather for the next two days or so will allow us to move further down the roadway with the same tactics and continue our approach with an eye toward improved results. To facilitate the work, we will have a daytime lane closure in place for the next few days on the westbound travel lane.
- We continued to observe a sheen and a strong odor of diesel fuel on Lindsey Lake, particularly at the shoreline. We still haven't observed any evidence of contamination in the Columbia River, and we did not observe any contamination today in Lindsey Creek. Air monitoring and water sampling continues.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has temporarily raised the level of the water by about a foot on the stretch of the Columbia that includes our incident site, making maintenance of our 3000 feet of boom easier and providing some additional protection and relief for the critical spawning habitat at the mouth of Lindsey Creek.
- Scientists from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service were on site today and conducted an initial assessment by small boat to determine the impact of the spill and our operations on the site's natural resources. The team will conduct an expanded shoreline assessment tomorrow on foot. Evidence of recent beaver activity, including a den, was observed in the part of Lindsey Lake impacted by the spill. A pair of American dippers was observed on Lindsey Creek.

- **Plan for Sunday, February 17:**

- We will continue flushing and recovery operations and see what we can collect. Daytime temperatures will remain above freezing for the foreseeable future and any snow accumulations at river level should be minimal; this should keep the roadway bare for the most part and allow us to continue our work.
- We will continue to maintain the extensive containment and protective booming strategies already in place, swapping out sorbent boom as necessary.
- While we remain optimistic about our plan, the site's underlying geology, steep topography, slippery footing and overall lack of access for recovery operations continues to frustrate our efforts. As time moves forward, recovery of spilled fuel will become more difficult.
- We are exploring some additional possible recovery tactics and we are working to bring in some additional sampling equipment that will help us identify how much fuel may still be beneath the roadway or the embankment.

I will provide another update tomorrow evening. Our team continues to remain adaptable and capable as we conduct operations safely. We continue to appreciate the participation and cooperation of our many state, Federal, local and tribal partners.

Very respectfully,

Jamie

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